

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY.'S DOCKET: HOHSAKA=2

In re Application of:

Ayako HOHSAKA, et al.

Serial No.: 09/720,554

Filed: December 27, 2000

For: CYANINE DYES

) Art Unit: 1756

) Examiner:

) Confirmation No.

) Washington D.C.

) December 10, 2001



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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Prior to the examination of the above-identified application, please enter the following Preliminary Amendment:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the first paragraph on page 8, lines 7-

28 as follows:

In formulae 2 to 5, x_1^- and x_2^- represent the same or different counter ions as in Formula 1. Examples of such counter ions are inorganic ions such as hexafluoro phosphoric acid ion, halogen ion, phosphoric acid ion, perchloric acid ion, periodic acid ion, hexafluoro antimononic acid ion, hexafluoro stannic acid ion, fluoroboric acid ion, and hexafluoroboric acid ion; organic ions such as thiocyanic acid ion, benzenesulfonic acid ion, naphthlenesulfonic acid ion, p-toluenesulfonic acid ion, alkylsulfonic acid ion, benzenecarbonic acid ion, alkylcarbonic acid ion, trihaloalkylcarbonic acid ion, alkylsulfonic acid ion,